IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Elazar Rabbani et al.

Serial No.:

08/439,594

Group Art Unit: 1637

RECEIVED

AUG I 3 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed:

November 12, 1999

Examiner: Joyce Tung

For:

DETECTING THE PRESENCE OF SPECIFIC

TARGET NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES THROUGH STEM-LOOP FORMATION

> 527 Madison Avenue (9thFloor) New York, NY 10022-4304 August 8, 2003

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MAIL STOP -- NON-FEE AMENDMENTS Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115 (IN RESPONSE TO THE JULY 30, 2003 OFFICE ACTION)

Dear Sirs:

This is a response (Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115) to the July 30, 2003 Office Action issued in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the July 30, 2003 Office Action is due by October 30, 2003. Accordingly, this response (Amendment) is being timely filed.

Elazaar Rabbani et al. Serial No.: 09/439,594 Filed: November 12, 1999

Page 2 [Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115 (In Response To The

July 30, 2003 Office Action -- August 8, 2003]

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

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I hereby certify that this paper and the attachments herein are being deposited with the United States Postal

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Trademarks, Washington DC 20231.

3 Aug 8 2003

Ronald C. Fedus Reg. No. 32,567

Date